

Application No. 10/002,180
Response to Office Action mailed November 10, 2004

REMARKS

The attorneys of record have changed and a Revocation and Power of Attorney has previously been submitted. The Patent Office is kindly asked to update its records to reflect the new attorney docket number of I084 1250.

The present submission is in response to the Office action mailed November 10, 2004, in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-25 under 35 USC 112, 2nd ¶ for multiplicity, and required that the Applicants select no more than 3 independent claims and 13 dependent claims for examination.

Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection and believe that examination of a total of 25 claims, 6 of which are independent, is by no means unreasonable. As stated at MPEP § 2173.05(n), "[u]ndue multiplicity rejections based on 35 USC 112, second paragraph should be applied judiciously and should be rare." Moreover, patents having considerably more than 3 independent claims and 13 dependent claims have been issued in class 407. Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to withdraw the multiplicity rejection and consider all 25 claims, as though none have been withdrawn.

In the event that the Examiner maintains the multiplicity rejection, Applicants provisionally elect to have independent claims 1, 16 and 21 considered, along with dependent claims 2-7, 9-11, 17, 22 and newly added dependent claims 26 & 27. Among the dependent claims, claims 9-11 have been amended to depend on independent claim 16; claims 10 and 17 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis, and new dependent claims 26 & 27 recite limitations that originally appeared in claims 19 and 23, respectively. This gives a total of 3 independent claims and 13 dependent claims, as requested by the Examiner.

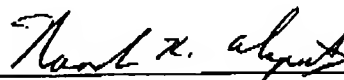
The Examiner is asked to take into account the amendments to the specification and the arguments presented in the amendment filed August 20, 2004, along with the Declaration of Amir Satran submitted therewith.

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No fee is believed to be due for the present submission. Should a fee be required, the Director is authorized to charge Womble Carlyle's Deposit Account No. 09-0528 for any such fee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: November 23, 2004



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